TOWN OF STERLING BOARD OF SELECTMEN April 9, 2014

MEETING

Roll Call: Selectman Cutler - Present. Selectman Patacchiola - Present. Chairman Furmaniuk - Present. At 7:02 pm, Chairman Furmaniuk called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Selectman Cutler moved the motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes for March 26, 2014. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. **VOTE:** Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

Selectman Cutler moved the motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes for the Joint meeting with the Senior Center Building Committee on March 27, 2014. Chairman Furmaniuk 2nd. **VOTE:** Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Abstained. Motion carried.

Open Meeting Law Complaints

No complaints need to be addressed at this time.

1835 Town Hall Presentation

Bob Jones, a member of the 1835 Town Hall Committee, presented a photograph of the 1835 Town Hall to the Board. Mr. Jones thanked the Board of Selectmen and the Town Residents for their continued support, which has made it possible for the 1835 Town Hall Committee to maintain and enhance the 1835 Town Hall Building.

Appointment Personnel Board

David Shapiro appeared before the Board requesting his appointment to the Personnel Board. Mr. Shapiro currently works in the Human Resources Department at Quinsigamond Community College. The Personnel Board has unanimously voted to support Mr. Shapiro's appointment to their committee. Dick Sheppard, the Town Moderator was present. The Finance Committee has not voted regarding this appointment. Since this is a joint appointment, the Board of Selectmen has tabled this request until the Finance Committee votes, regarding their support of this candidate.

Appoint Alternate Wiring Inspector

Gary Harrington was present. He is endorsed by Bruce Dunn, the wiring inspector and Mark Brodeur, the Building Inspector. After a brief interview, the Select Board took their VOTE: Selectman Cutler moved a motion to appoint Gary Harrington as the Alternate Wiring Inspector. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Common Victualer License For Clearview Farms

After a brief discussion with Rick Melone of Clearview Farm, The Board VOTED: Selectman Patacchiola moved a motion to approve the Common Victualer License for Clearview Farm, located at 4 Kendall Hill Road. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Fair Committee Appointments

Gloria Rugg, Secretary for the Fair Committee, was present. She reported that the 3 candidates had been voted upon and endorsed by the Fair Committee. The Board of Selectmen decided to table these appointments until a formal Volunteer form has been submitted by each candidate.

Approve Alcohol License renewal for Farmers market An application for a renewal license, to sell wine at the Farmer's Market, was considered. Frank Zoll was unable to attend the meeting. After a discussion, VOTED: Selectman Patacchiola moved a motion to approve the Farmer's Market alcohol license for Zoll winery, to be used from May 16 – October 31, 2014. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

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Approve One Day Liquor Licenses

After discussion, **VOTE:** Selectman Patacchiola moved a motion to approve the one day alcohol license request by Eight Point Sportsmen's Club for the Fishing Derby on April 12 from 10 am to 6 pm. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola moved a motion to approve the one day alcohol license request by Eight Point Sportsmen's Club for the Fishing Derby on April 13 noon until 6 pm. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Neighbor to Neighbor After discussion, **VOTE:** Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to approve the disbursement of a total of \$1024.97 for the first applicant. \$865.12 will go to the Oil Company and \$159.85 will go to the Light Department. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to approve the disbursement of a total of \$1198.00 for the second applicant. \$\$798.00 will go to the Oil Company and \$400.00 will go to the Light Department. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Firefighter's Union

Chief David Hurlbut and Lieutenant Tom Kokernak addressed the Board of Selectmen. Both the Chief and Lieutenant Kokernak reported that there are no issues fueling the decision, by the Sterling Firefighters, to join the International Association of Firefighters. However, Lieutenant Kokernak reported that their contract negotiations are imminent and the Sterling Firefighters wish to exercise their legal right to organize with the International Association of Firefighters, in order for the union to assist in those negotiations. After discussion, the Board **VOTED**: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion that the Town of Sterling and the Sterling Fire Fighter's Association mutually agrees to recognize the International Association of Firefighters as the exclusive bargaining agent in accordance with the Massachusetts General Law Chapter 150E. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Proposed changes to Personnel Bylaw Personnel Board Chairman, Jed Lindholm and Human Resource Director, Don Jacobs returned to further the Proposed changes to the Personnel Bylaws. They outlined the Classification and Compensation Plan for all non-union positions, explaining the methodology which was used to establish the midpoint for compensation and the development of the guidelines that establish consistency in classification/grade levels.

Discuss and Vote Annual Town Meeting Warrants The Board discussed the May 3, 2014 Special Town Meeting Warrant. The Special Town Meeting Warrant will include an article to purchase a new truck for the water department as the Water Department wishes to purchase a replacement truck as soon as possible, citing safety concerns with their current vehicle. The Special Town Meeting Warrant contains the following:

- Transfer Free Cash to Capital Fund
- Transfer Free Cash to Stabilization Fund
- Fund Deficit due to Snow and Ice
- Bills from Prior Fiscal Years
- Transfers During FY14
- Purchase Water Department truck

VOTE: Selectman Patacchiola moved a motion to approve the Special Town Meeting Warrant, as written. Selectman Cutler 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

The Board Discussed the May 3, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The following articles were approved without further discussion:

- **ARTICLE 1. Compensation of Elected Officers**
- ARTICLE 2. Authorize Treasurer to Borrow Money
- **ARTICLE 3. Compensating Balance Agreements**
- **ARTICLE 4. Chapter 90 Funding**
- **ARTICLE 6.** Amend Personnel Bylaws
- **ARTICLE 7. Amend Personnel Classification Plans**
- ARTICLE 8. FY15 Town Operating Budget
- ARTICLE 9. Water Dept. Operations -- Enterprise Fund
- ARTICLE 10. WRSD Net Minimum Contribution, Debt, & Interest
- **ARTICLE 11. WRSD Above Net Minimum Contribution**
- ARTICLE 12. Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Assessment
- ARTICLE 13. Town Reserve Fund for FY15
- ARTICLE 14. 1835 Town Hall Maintenance
- **ARTICLE 16. Repair Police Station Roof**
- ARTICLE 17. Repair Fire Station Roof
- **ARTICLE 18. Fund Various Capital Items**
- ARTICLE 19. Replace 6 wheel Dump Truck #24
- ARTICLE 20. Rehabilitate 1984 Motor Grader
- **ARTICLE 21. Ultraviolet Disinfection Upgrade**
- ARTICLE 22. AMI Water meter upgrades
- ARTICLE 23. Return Funds to Water Enterprise Retained Earnings
- ARTICLE 24. Fund Principal and Interest for 2004 Fire Truck
- ARTICLE 25. Fund Lease-Purchase Payment for 2010 Pumper Tanker
- ARTICLE 26. New Ambulance Fund Principal and Interest
- ARTICLE 30. Fire Department Firefighter Protective Clothing
- ARTICLE 31. Federal Fire Act Grant 5% Match
- ARTICLE 33. Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)
- ARTICLE 34. Fund Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycle Center (Earth day)
- **ARTICLE 35. Fund Sterling Land Trust Expenses**
- ARTICLE 35. Fund Wachusett Greenways Expenses
- **ARTICLE 37. Revolving Accounts**
- Article 40. Amend Town Bylaws Regarding East lake Waushacum
- ARTICLE 41. Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Funding
- ARTICLE 42. Adoption of the so-called "MULLIN RULE" Regarding Public Hearings
- ARTICLE 43. Eliminate Saturday Voter Registration
- ARTICLE 44. Deadline for Candidate to Obtain Nomination Papers

VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to accept the above articles as written, in the warrant. Selectman Cutler2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the following Articles:

Article 5. Fund the Senior Center: The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to recommend the passage of this article ONLY IF the project is financed as excluded debt. Such action would require a ballot vote at the annual election. After discussion: VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to accept the article ONLY IF the project is financed as excluded debt. as was recommended by the Finance Committee. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 15. New Vehicle for the Police Chief: The recommendation of the Finance Committee

was to NOT recommend the passage of this article. After discussion: **VOTE:** Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to NOT recommend the passage of this article. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 27. Fire Department 4x4 Utility Vehicle Replacement The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to NOT recommend the passage of this article. After discussion: VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to NOT recommend the passage of this article. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 28. Fire Truck Engine 2 Replacement for \$590,000 The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to recommend the passage of this article contingent on financing the purchase with a five year bond funded as EXCLUDED DEBT. After discussion: VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to support this article contingent on financing the purchase with a five year bond funded as EXCLUDED DEBT, as recommended by the Finance Committee. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 29. Fire Department Engine 2 Refurbishment for \$220,000 The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to PASS OVER this article. After discussion: **VOTE**: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to PASS OVER this article per the recommendation of the Finance Committee. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Opposed. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 32. Fairground Land Purchase The recommendation of the Finance Committee was to NOT recommend the passage of this article. After discussion: **VOTE**: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to NOT recommend the passage of this article. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 38. Amend Animal Control Bylaw – License Fees for Owner(s) Over 70 Years Old The Finance Committee took no position on this article. After discussion: VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to support the passage of this article. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 39. Amend Animal Control Bylaw -- Impoundment Period The Finance Committee took no position on this article. After discussion: VOTE: Chairman Furmaniuk moved a motion to support the passage of this article. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Motion carried.

Town Administrator Update

The following was included in the Town Administrator's

- There will be a joint meeting of the Regional School District Towns in Rutland on April 10, 2014
- The annual application of herbicide will be applied along the railroad tracks within the next couple of weeks
- A public meeting will be held at the Chocksett School Gymnasium on April 24 regarding the MASSDOT proposal for the Chocksett/Route 12 Intersection
- Tim Murray will be available to the public at the Holden Town Hall on April 24
- A Senior Work-off volunteer has made a formal complaint about harassment by the public.
 The board asked the Town Administrator to investigate the options to eradicate harassment of Municipal workers. The Town Administrator will review anti-harassment policies that are

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currently used in other towns.

The Town Administrator reported that there WILL be an executive session next meeting in order to get direction from the Board in regard to union contract negotiations.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

VOTE: Selectman Cutler moved the motion to Adjourn at 9:07. Selectman Patacchiola 2nd. Chairman Furmaniuk – Aye. Selectman Patacchiola – Aye. Selectman Cutler – Aye. Motion carried.

materials list: Draft of STM and ATM, Clearview Farm Common Vict. Application, Zoll Winery application for Farmer's Market, Fair member applications, One day liquor Applications for 8 point Sportsmen's club, Neighbor to Neighbor disbursement recommendation, Fire Dept. Agreeement for Voluntary Recognition, Proposed FY15 Classification and Compensation Plan